

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 7-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) in view of International Publication Number WO 01/95550 of *Holmeide et al.* ("*Holmeide*").

Claims 16-24 are withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by *Holmeide* because *Holmeide* does not disclose a slave clock that adjusts its local time in response to a time-stamp carried on a network and a timing pulse carried on a timing signal path that is separate from the network as claimed in amended claim 1. Instead, *Holmeide* discloses a network client that adjusts its local time in response to information carried on a network only. (*Holmeide*, page 3, lines 12-14 and 31-35, and page 5, lines 1-16). For example, *Holmeide* discloses a method for distributing time synchronization information on a computer network...

(*Holmeide*, page 3, lines 12-14) (emphasis added) and specifically discloses Ethernet networks (*Holmeide*, page 3, lines 26 and 33) and states that

the invention will be found useful in numerous other applications and in connection with other types of networks...

(*Holmeide*, page 3, lines 33-35) (emphasis added). *Holmeide* does not disclose time synchronization using a network and a timing signal path that is separate from the network as claimed in amended claim 1.

Moreover, *Holmeide* does not disclose a master clock that transfers a timing pulse on a timing signal path in response to a time event associated with the master clock as claimed in amended claim 1. Instead, *Holmeide* discloses a time server, i.e. a master clock, that transfers time information on a network in response to a

request packet received via the network from a client, i.e. a slave clock. (*Holmeide*, page 5, lines 1-2). It is submitted that a request packet received via a network as disclosed in *Holmeide* is not a time event associated with a master clock as claimed in amended claim 1 because a time event is internal to the master clock.

Furthermore, *Holmeide* does not disclose a master clock that transfers a time-stamp via a network in response to a time event in the master clock as claimed in amended claim 1. Instead, *Holmeide* discloses a time server that generates time stamps in response to a request packet received from a client via a network. (*Holmeide*, page 5, lines 8-14 and page 8, lines 8-15).

Given that claims 2-4 and 7-15 depend from amended claim 1, it is submitted that claims 2-4 and 7-15 are not anticipated by *Holmeide*.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1078 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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